GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3145
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
IMPORT OF AFRICAN IVORY
GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAV

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the former dealers have been asked to surrender their African Ivory stock imported by them legally;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a `Certificate of Ownership` can be issued to a dealer under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation ?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a)&(b) The Supreme Court of India has, in its order dated 24.9.2001, directed the Central and the State Governments to inventorise and keep the imported ivory articles under their custody.

(c)&(d) Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for issuance of Certificate of Ownership` to the dealer forbonafide personal use only.

(e) Since the matter is sub-judice no remedial action can be taken.